

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for resuming a mode of display device operation, comprising:
 - 2 determining if a predetermined condition has been satisfied; and
 - 3 if the predetermined condition has been satisfied, automatically resuming
 - 4 output of an interrupted yet previously output signal to the display device.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein determining if a predetermined
2 condition has been satisfied comprises determining if there is no user activity for a
3 predefined period of time.

- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein determining if there is no user activity
2 comprises determining if no user input is received for the predefined period of time.

- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein determining if a predetermined
2 condition has been satisfied comprises determining if a slideshow of digital images is
3 being displayed on the display device.

- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein determining if a predetermined
2 condition has been satisfied comprises determining if a user input is awaited.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein automatically resuming output of a
2 previously output signal comprises automatically resuming output of a television
3 programming signal to the display device.

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein automatically resuming output of a
2 previously output signal comprises automatically resuming output of a video signal
3 provided by a video player.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein automatically resuming output of a
2 previously output signal comprises controlling a switch to provide the output signal to
3 a digital image viewing device output port.

1 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising detecting activation of a
2 digital image viewing device.

1 10. The method of claim 9, further comprising interrupting a received
2 signal and outputting digital image data to the display device.

1 11. A method for controlling a digital image viewing device, comprising:
2 detecting activation of the viewing device;
3 interrupting output of a signal received by the viewing device;
4 outputting digital image data from the viewing device to a display device;
5 determining if a predetermined condition has been satisfied; and
6 if the predetermined condition has been satisfied, automatically resuming
7 output of the received signal from the viewing device to the display device.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein determining if a predetermined
2 condition has been satisfied comprises determining if there is no user activity for a
3 predefined period of time.

1 13. The method of claim 11, wherein determining if a predetermined
2 condition has been satisfied comprises determining if a slideshow of digital images is
3 being displayed on the display device.

1 14. The method of claim 11, wherein determining if a predetermined
2 condition has been satisfied comprises determining if a user input is awaited.

1 15. A system that resumes a mode of display device operation, comprising:
2 means for interrupting a signal output to the display device;
3 means for sending digital image data to the display device;
4 means for determining if a predetermined condition has been satisfied; and
5 means for automatically resuming output of the interrupted signal to the
6 display device when the means for determining determines that the condition has been
7 satisfied.

1 16. The system of claim 15, wherein the means for determining comprise
2 means for determining if there is no user activity for a predefined period of time.

1 17. The system of claim 15, wherein the means for determining comprise
2 means for determining if a slideshow of digital images is being displayed on the
3 display device.

1 18. The system of claim 15, wherein the means for determining comprise
2 means for determining if a user input is awaited.

1 19. The system of claim 15, wherein the means for automatically resuming
2 output comprises a switch that in one orientation provides digital data to the display
3 device and in another orientation provides a received input signal to the display
4 device.

1 20. A system that resumes a mode of display device operation, comprising:
2 logic configured to determine if a predetermined condition has been satisfied;
3 and

4 logic configured to, upon a determination that the predetermined condition has
5 been satisfied, automatically resume output of a signal previously output to the display
6 device.

1 21. The system of claim 20, wherein the logic configured to determine if a
2 predetermined condition has been satisfied comprises logic configured to determine if
3 there is no user activity for a predefined period of time.

1 22. The system of claim 20, wherein the logic configured to determine if a
2 predetermined condition has been satisfied comprises logic configured to determine if
3 a slideshow of digital images is being displayed on the display device.

1 23. The system of claim 20, wherein the logic configured to determine if a
2 predetermined condition has been satisfied comprises logic configured to determine if
3 a user input is awaited.

1 24. The system of claim 20, wherein the logic configured to automatically
2 resume output comprises logic configured to control a switch that is operable to
3 provide a programming signal input into a digital image viewing device to an output
4 of the viewing device.

1 25. The system of claim 20, further comprising logic configured to
2 interrupt a signal output to the display device.

1 26. The system of claim 20, further comprising logic configured to send
2 digital image data to the display device.

1 27. A digital image viewing device, comprising:
2 a processor, and
3 memory accessible to the processor, the memory including a digital image
4 display system that is configured to receive and display digital image data, and an
5 output control module that is configured to determine if a predetermined condition has
6 been satisfied and automatically resume output of an interrupted signal that is input
7 into the viewing device and that was previously output to the display device when the
8 predetermined condition has been satisfied.

1 28. The device of claim 27, further comprising a programming signal input
2 port and a device output port.

1 29. The device of claim 28, further comprising a switch that is operable to
2 connect and disconnect the programming signal input port and the device output port.

1 30. The device of claim 29, further comprising a device controller that
2 controls, in conjunction with the processor and the output control module, operation
3 of the switch.